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**Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)**

**Advancement of women**

## Letter dated 12 January 2010 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to write to you in your capacity as depositary of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women with reference to CEDAW/C/UK/CO/6/Add.1, which contains information provided by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under the follow-up procedure to the concluding observations of the Committee, the annex to which refers to the Malvinas Islands, the South Georgia Islands and the South Sandwich Islands.

In that connection, the Argentine Republic reiterates the content of its notes of 3 April 1989 and 18 January 2005, by which it rejected the extension of the territorial application of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol, respectively, to the Malvinas Islands by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The Argentine Government recalls that the Malvinas Islands, the South Georgia Islands and the South Sandwich Islands, and the surrounding maritime areas are an integral part of the Argentine national territory; since they have been unlawfully occupied by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a sovereignty dispute has existed between the two countries, as recognized by a number of international organizations.

The illegitimate occupation by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland led to the adoption by the General Assembly of resolutions 2065 (XX), 3160 (XXVIII), 31/49, 37/9, 38/12, 39/6, 40/21, 41/40, 42/19 and 43/25, in which it recognizes the existence of a sovereignty dispute regarding the "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)" and urges the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island to resume negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful and lasting solution to the dispute.

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The Special Committee of 24 on Decolonization of the United Nations has repeatedly reaffirmed this position, most recently in the resolution adopted on 18 June 2009.

On the basis of the above, the Argentine Government rejects the inclusion of the Malvinas Islands, the South Georgia Islands and the South Sandwich Islands under the so-called title of "Overseas Territories" in the annex to the information provided by the United Kingdom and circulated as document CEDAW/C/UK.CO/6/Add.1, which is wholly invalid as it refers to part of the Argentine national territory. Likewise, the Argentine Republic rejects any other document or act that might result from the so-called territorial application, referred to above and duly rejected by Argentina.

Therefore, the Argentine Government requests that this note should be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 23, on the Malvinas Islands, and item 62, on the advancement of women.

(*Signed*) Diego **Limeres**
Minister
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.